

Power generation from urban waste

†2038. SHRI DHARAM PAL SABHARWAL: Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the drains falling in towns and rural areas are filled up with plastic fuel, polythene wastages and they create problems to the drainage system;

(b) whether the Government are considering to develop hi-tech technology for generation of energy from these wastages on national level;

(c) if so, whether Government undertakings, and private multinational companies have taken initiatives in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and what is the progress in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY (SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR): (a) Indiscriminate littering of plastic material alongwith other garbage and the absence of organized segregation creates problems for the drainage systems in towns and rural areas. Several initiatives have been taken by the Ministry of Environment and Forests to discourage littering and to promote proper collection, segregation, reuse and recycling of plastic, including notification of Recycled Plastics Manufacturer and Usages (Amendment) Rules, 2003, and Hazardous Waste (Management & Handling) Amendment Rules, 2003.

(b) to (d) No, Sir. However, a Nagpur based Professor claims to have developed a catalytic process for conversion of plastic wastes into liquid fuel. On the basis of a detailed scrutiny carried out by the Scientific Advisory Committee of the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas, the proposal could not be recommended for further research and/or funding.

Linking of regions to transfer surplus power

2039. SHRI B.J. PANDA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is proposed to link western, eastern and the north-eastern regions with the northern region to help transfer of surplus power to the deficient northern region;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) if so, the details of the project; and

(c) how far this will help overcome shortage of power in the northern region especially the NCT of Delhi?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SHINDE): (a) to (c) With the commissioning of Muzaffarpur-Gorakhpur 400kV D/C line under "Transmission System associated with Tala HEP, East-North Inter-connector and Northern Region Transmission System" in August, 2006, Northern Region has been synchronously inter-connected with Western, Eastern and North-Eastern Regions. This transmission line with series compensation has inter-regional power transmission capacity of 2000 MW between Eastern Region and Northern Region.

The inter-regional links help in transfer of surplus from one region to other regions. States of Northern Region, including National Capital Territory of Delhi are able to avail their share in the power stations located in Eastern Region as also surplus power from Eastern and Southern Regions through inter-regional links. Northern Region received 1798.2 MU of power from other regions during the period August-October, 2006 out of which NCT of Delhi received 172.6 MU.

Installing of electronic metres

†2040. SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that electronic metres are being installed at homes for billing of consumption of electricity;

(b) if so, whether the consumers are dissatisfied with the installation of electronic metres and demand for the change is being made by them;

(c) if so, the reasons for the dissatisfaction of the consumers; and

(d) the details of the action taken to redress their dissatisfaction?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SHINDE): (a) Under the provisions of the Electricity Act, 2003, Central Electricity Authority has framed the Central Electricity Authority (Installation and Operation of

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.